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Country programme recommendation**

Djibouti***

Addendum

Summary

The present addendum to the country note submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session 2002 contains the final recommendation for the country programme for adoption by the Board.

It contains a recommendation for funding of the country programme of Djibouti, with an annual planning level less than or equal to one million dollars. The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board approve the amount of $3,450,000 from general resources, subject to the availability of funds, and $3,750,000 in supplementary funds, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2003 to 2007.

* E/ICEF/2002/11.

** The original country note provided only indicative figures for estimated programme cooperation. The figures provided in the present addendum are final and take into account unspent balances of programme cooperation at the end of 2001. They will be contained in the summary of recommendations for general resources and other resources programmes for 2002 (E/ICEF/2002/P/L.36).

*** Submission of the document was delayed pending the availability of more recent data.

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Basic data (2000 unless otherwise indicated)	
Child population (millions, under 18 years)	0.3
U5MR (per 1,000 live births)	146
IMR (per 1,000 live births)	102
Underweight (% moderate and severe, 1996)	18
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births) (1990)	..
Literacy (% male/female)	65/38
Primary school enrolment (% net, male/female) (1997)	39/28
Primary school children reaching grade 5 (%, 1998)	83
Use of clean drinking water sources (%)	100
Routine EPI vaccines financed by Government (%, 1999)	0
Adult HIV prevalence rate (%, 1999)	11.8
GNP per capita (US$)	840
One-year-olds fully immunized against (1999):	
Tuberculosis	26%
Diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus	23%
Measles	21%
Poliomyelitis	24%
Pregnant women immunized against tetanus	.. %

The situation of children and women

1. The situation of children and women is essentially as described in the country note submitted to the Executive Board at its first session 2002 (E/ICEF/2002/P/L.14).

Programme cooperation, 1999-2002

2. Programme cooperation between the Government of Djibouti and UNICEF for the 1999-2003 period was cut back by one year in order to synchronize the programming of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNICEF. The mid-term review and strategy meeting, held respectively in October and November 2001, highlighted the key achievements of the present cooperation programme and are summarized hereunder, by main component.

3. The survival programme had the objectives of helping to reduce by one third the mortality rate among children under 5 attributable to diseases preventable through immunization, diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections (ARI), and helping to reduce by 20 per cent the maternal mortality rate. By ensuring a regular supply of vaccines and injection equipment and rehabilitating the country's entire cold chain, the Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI)/Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) has in the past three years made it possible to resume routine immunization efforts and campaigns against

poliomyelitis, achieving a poliomyelitis immunization rate of over 90 per cent throughout the country. Efforts are being made to step up vaccinations and raise the immunization rates for the other EPI antigens (in 2000, 45 per cent for the diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine and 49 per cent for measles). Nutrition surveys carried out in 2000 detected a worsening in the nutritional status of children under five (one in four suffers from malnutrition) and highlighted the need to develop a national strategy against malnutrition. UNICEF support for the safe motherhood programme, using a "door-to-door" strategic approach, has produced significant increases in prenatal consultations of two visits or more, from 36 per cent to 56 per cent, of post-partum consultations, to 7.5 per cent, and of the birth rate at health facilities, from 36 per cent to 52 per cent.

4. The development and disparity reduction programme had the objectives of increasing the enrolment rate (from 73 per cent to 90 per cent for boys and from 62 per cent to 85 per cent for girls); reducing gender disparities at primary school; reducing primary school dropouts by 10 per cent; increasing female literacy by 20 per cent and facilitating access to credit for 10,000 women. This programme, consisting of a single project entitled "child-friendly communities", has made it possible, using seminars, to enhance communities' commitment to school attendance, learning and the acquisition of a quality education of basic reading and mathematical skills and practical knowledge. UNICEF supported the initiation of a national debate on schooling of girls, which served to raise awareness among families and at the same time to mobilize them at the various events that were held.

5. The international expertise offered by UNICEF to support the planning service of the Ministry of National Education not only facilitated preparation of the master plan and plan of action 2001-2005 submitted to the donors' round table, but also highlighted UNICEF concerns, such as education for girls, early childhood development and the further training of teachers, head teachers and *académie* inspectors. Work is currently taking shape in these fields: three training seminars have been held to strengthen the managerial skills of head teachers, a law has been adopted making basic education mandatory for all children as from January 2001, early childhood education has been incorporated into the education system to improve preparation for primary school, and social mobilization has begun in support of girls' schooling.

6. Thanks to support from UNICEF, a qualitative study of obstacles to girls' education has identified four main factors: accommodation problems, sociocultural constraints, poverty and a very high drop-out rate. The study's recommendations led to various projects to improve access to education for girls. A consensus workshop on early childhood development which brought together various ministerial departments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and associations led to the establishment of an intersectoral working group that is now drawing up a comprehensive national development strategy for early childhood in Djibouti.

7. Thanks to UNICEF, a national competition was launched to select and reward 10 "child-friendly schools" which met quality criteria, in particular in respect of partnership between the school, the home and the community, the availability of teaching materials, the teaching process and the school environment. In future, this competition will cover all the country's schools.

8. The protection and promotion of child rights programme had as its objectives to ensure follow-up to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the

Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; to improve the legal protection of children and women and raise awareness in society of children's and women's rights; to improve the effectiveness of communications activities so as to bring about a change of attitude among individuals and households, thus ensuring a better use of services; to strengthen access to and use of reliable and specific social indicators relating to the situation of women and children; and to help harmonize statistical data collection and processing systems.

9. The protection and promotion of child rights programme comprised projects for advocacy and social mobilization and for social statistics. The former widely disseminated the content of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in schools, while the latter updated the situation of children and women, in particular with regard to the schooling of girls, nutrition surveillance and iodine deficiencies.

10. In 2000, the Government for the first time submitted a report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child. In response to the recommendations later made by the Committee, the Government stated its will to strengthen its interest in children's rights in general and in gradual reform of the protection system in particular. The Committee's recommendations were disseminated to the ministries involved in social programmes, and broad dissemination to the public is now being prepared. In addition, the withdrawal of the general reservation filed with the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child will be submitted to the National Assembly in the near future, and it is planned to proceed with a revision of the Penal Code, taking the Convention into consideration.

11. Children are starting to play a greater role in the celebration of the Djibouti Day of the Child. Children have various opportunities to express their views of life and their expectations with regard to their rights. National institutions and the media, in particular radio and television, actively collaborate in the promotion of children's rights: the National Assembly holds a meeting of the children's parliament during its September session, and the national radio and television service airs a television news programme managed entirely by children just before the main evening television news broadcast.

12. The Ministry of Justice is aware of the need to act against juvenile delinquency and is committed to establishing a judicial system for juvenile offenders.

Lessons learned from previous cooperation

13. The lessons learned from previous cooperation are essentially the same as those mentioned in the country note.

Recommended programme cooperation, 2003-2007

	Estimated annual expenditure (In thousands of United States dollars)					
	2003	*2004*	*2005*	*2006*	*2007*	*Total*
Regular resources						
Early childhood development	180	180	170	175	175	880
Education with a special emphasis on the girl child	150	160	160	160	160	790
Combating HIV/AIDS	100	90	95	95	95	475
Monitoring and evaluation	60	60	65	60	60	305
Cross-sectoral costs	200	200	200	200	200	1 000
Subtotal	**690**	**690**	**690**	**690**	**690**	**3 450**
Other resources						
Early childhood development	250	250	250	250	250	1 250
Education with a special emphasis on the girl child	200	200	200	200	200	1 000
Combating HIV/AIDS	170	170	150	160	150	800
Monitoring and evaluation	70	70	80	75	80	375
Cross-sectoral costs	60	60	70	65	70	325
Subtotal	**750**	**750**	**750**	**750**	**750**	**3 750**
Total	**1 440**	**1 440**	**1 440**	**1 440**	**1 440**	**7 200**

Country programme preparation process

14. The country programme was prepared in close cooperation with the Government of Djibouti through inter-ministerial cooperation coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Throughout this process, regular consultations were held with other United Nations agencies, in particular as part of the Common Country Assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), and with bilateral donors. As part of the synchronization of the programming cycles of UNFPA, WFP, UNDP and UNICEF, regular working meetings were held until UNDAF was finalized.

15. The mid-term review was held in October 2001 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. In the light of the lessons learned, the objectives, strategies and activities of programmes and projects were adjusted by mutual consent. A strategy meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Ministry of International Cooperation, with the participation of the main partners from the ministries of national education, the promotion of women, health and justice, and with donors, including the Ambassadors of China, France and the United States, the delegate of the European Union and representatives of the United Nations agencies.

Country programme aims and objectives

16. The general objective of the 2003-2007 programme of cooperation is to contribute to national efforts to apply the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to all children in the Republic of Djibouti. In accordance with Government priorities, it will assist mainly in: (a) lowering maternal and infant morbidity and mortality, while contributing to the integrated development of children under six; (b) ensuring the right of children to quality education and, in particular, increasing enrolment and retention of girls in primary schools; (c) stabilizing the number of new cases of HIV/AIDS infection registered annually among young persons and children born to infected mothers by 2007; and (d) ensuring close follow-up of the situation of children and women.

Links with national and international priorities

17. The country programme has been prepared along the main lines established by the UNICEF medium-term strategic plan, based on a life-cycle approach, with a view to addressing the major issues affecting children and women in Djibouti. The Programme was broadly designed to take into account government priorities and policies, contained in the national programme of action for development 2002-2010. The programme objectives and strategies are based on analysis of the current situation of children and women, and influenced by the areas targeted in the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and UNDAF and the Millennium Declaration, the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the mid-term review and the complementarity between UNICEF assistance and assistance provided by other development partners.

18. The Government's commitment to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and to follow up the international conferences, and the priority given by the State to the social sectors, particularly education, health and protection, as well as the preparation of a poverty reduction strategy paper, also represent opportunities presented by this cooperation programme.

Country programme strategies

19. The main strategies adopted in order to achieve the objectives of the four intersectoral programmes are based on consolidation of the achievements of the previous cooperation programme, while promoting improved intersectoral liaison and innovative approaches. This will translate into improvement in the quality of social services provided, national and local capacity-building, advocacy with decision makers and civil society, empowerment and social mobilization with a view to ensuring effective participation of the recipient communities.

Early childhood development

20. This nationwide programme is aimed at the problems of high rates of infant, child and maternal mortality, which prevent enjoyment of the right of the child to survival and require integrated and speedy responses. The programme comprises three projects. The objective of the parent education project is to increase from 20 to 60 per cent the proportion of parents with precise knowledge of the 12 key competences in the care and quality development required for children under five.

The objective of the integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI) project is to raise the immunization coverage rate from 49 per cent to over 80 per cent for the six EPI antigens and to increase access to proper treatment of diarrhoeal diseases and ARI, and to advisory services and accurate information on nutrition and use of vitamin A. The objective of the safe motherhood project is to broaden access of pregnant women to quality maternity care from 56 per cent to 90 per cent, increase the proportion of women giving birth at health facilities from 52 per cent to 80 per cent, increase the proportion of pregnant women having at least two prenatal visits from 56 per cent to 80 per cent, and the proportion of new mothers having at least two postpartum visits from 7 to 50 per cent and to increase the proportion of adults with in-depth knowledge of the risks of female genital mutilation from less than 10 per cent to 50 per cent.

21. The programme will be based on the major strategic elements of improvement of service delivery, participation of beneficiaries and social mobilization. Within the framework of this programme, the UNICEF main areas of intervention and types of input will include, inter alia, supporting the training of community workers in key competences and methods of interactive communication; designing training materials, communication aids and radio and television messages; supplying vaccines, vaccination equipment, cold chains and support through social mobilization during national vaccination days; training health workers in the components of IMCI and traditional birth attendants; restoring oral rehydration therapy units; providing anti-tetanus vaccinations for pregnant women; and supplying essential drugs to treat ARIs, vitamin A, iron and folate supplements, sachets of oral rehydration salts and small items of medical equipment.

22. The main partners for this programme will be the Ministry of Health, the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Social Affairs, the Ministry of National Education and their district and community offices, non-governmental organizations and local associations, civil society and the private sector. The programme will be implemented in collaboration with United Nations agencies and other bilateral development partners.

23. Education with a special emphasis on the girl child. This nationwide programme targets the low primary enrolment rates and high school drop-out levels, particularly among girls (more than half of girls enrolled in primary education drop out starting from the third year of study), which prevent children from realizing their right to education and require integrated and intensive efforts. The goal of the increasing enrolment project is to raise the net primary enrolment rate for girls of school entrance age (five to six years old) in five districts from 35 to 70 per cent. The goal of the improving the quality of education project is to ensure that all children at schools in the target districts acquire basic skills in reading and mathematics and practical knowledge for their future lives. This improvement will help keep girls at school.

24. The programme will be based on IEC campaigns and social mobilization promoting the enrolment of girl children in schools; the revision or elaboration of policies, support processes and primary school admission mechanisms; the training of parents' associations and teachers regarding their roles and methods of promoting the enrolment of girls; the creation and dissemination of child-friendly reading materials which take gender into account; the revision and implementation of criteria to identify "child-friendly" schools and to reward the chosen schools; the development of results and basic skills for primary school classes and materials for pupils and teachers; the training of trainers, school principals, inspectors and

teachers in supervision, management and teaching in order to achieve better results and evaluate children's basic skills.

25. The main partners for this programme will be the Ministry of National Education and the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and Social Affairs and their district and community offices, parents' associations, non-governmental organizations and local associations, civil society and the private sector. In addition, this programme will be implemented in conjunction with United Nations agencies and other development partners.

26. Combating HIV/AIDS is a nationwide programme which addresses the problems faced by the two target groups as a result of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. According to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the estimated HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in Djibouti is 12 percent: the disease affects mainly young men and women and requires urgent attention. The goal of the preventing HIV/AIDS among young people project is to ensure that 90 per cent of young people between the ages of 12 and 18 are familiar with the ten specific behaviours favourable to preventing HIV transmission. The goals of the preventing mother-to-child transmission project are to ensure that 80 per cent of pregnant women have access to HIV screening tests and counselling and to increase to 60 per cent the proportion of infected mothers who are cared for socially and/or financially by their families or associations.

27. The programme will be based on the major strategic elements of improving the delivery of IEC services, formulating specific messages about key behaviours, producing IEC materials, social mobilization, training coordinators, making use of different media, setting up youth club networks, establishing two pilot screening test and counselling sites, providing antiretrovirals and equipment, achieving social mobilization through associations and promoting solidarity with pregnant women infected with HIV.

28. The main partners for this programme will be the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Youth, the Ministry of National Education, non-governmental organizations and local associations, civil society and the private sector. In addition, this programme will be implemented in conjunction with United Nations agencies and other development partners.

29. Monitoring and evaluation is a nationwide programme comprising two projects — monitoring and evaluation of the situation of children and women and monitoring and evaluation of the country programme — which addresses the lack of reliable basic data. Such data provide a means, on the one hand, of assessing the extent of the problems affecting children and women and ensuring periodic updates and, on the other, of evaluating progress made within the framework of the UNICEF-assisted programmes and projects and of monitoring and evaluating results achieved by establishing key indicators relevant to the goals of the programmes and projects. The lack of statistics is a problem which has persisted for several years but which is about to be resolved by establishing a sampling frame; this will allow the Pan Arab Project for Family Health survey, and possibly additional complementary surveys, to be carried out. An integrated monitoring and evaluation plan will be set up with a view to improving regular data collection and ensuring that it is analysed.

30. One project aims to ensure that an appropriate system to monitor and evaluate the situation of children and women is established and becomes operational. The goal of the second project is to ensure continuous and periodic verification of the progress, effectiveness and efficiency of the cooperation programme's actions,

strategies and results. Emphasis will be placed on children requiring special protection measures, such as street children, undocumented immigrant children and so on. The programme will be based on building the capacities of the national institutions responsible for statistics, such as the National Directorate for Statistics and the relevant social ministries, and on effective participation of the key partners, through exchanges of views regarding the statistical requirements of the various actors.

31. Cross-sectoral costs will allow successful completion of the activities of the other programmes on the ground, monitoring of those activities and strengthening of teamwork and of the multisectoral approach within the UNICEF office and with the various partners. A strategy for mobilizing resources and strengthening relations with donors will be elaborated in such a way as to regenerate interest from former contributors and to enable the submission of new project documents which will attract potential donors of additional funds.

Collaboration with the other partners

32. The UNICEF office in Djibouti always tries to assist the country by working collaboratively and complementarily with the other United Nations agencies, particularly those which have embarked upon the process of harmonizing their programming, through the Common Country Assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework which have enabled United Nations agencies to identify complementary areas of intervention, such as poverty reduction, good governance and the fight against HIV/AIDS. UNICEF will continue to collaborate with the United Nations Population Fund on the safe motherhood project and strengthening of the basic data collection system, with the World Bank on health matters, with the World Health Organization on the EPI and the Theme Group on HIV/AIDS. UNICEF will continue to work in collaboration with the main bilateral and multilateral donors and the Andorran, Canadian, German, Spanish and United States National Committees.

Programme management

33. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation generally acts as coordinator for the country's development assistance and provides inter-ministerial coordination with regard to relations with United Nations agencies or bilateral and multilateral donors. Annual action plans are drawn up and signed jointly by UNICEF and the ministry involved in each programme. Periodic reviews of the action plans for the programmes and projects are carried out with the various partners in order to take stock of progress and adjust planning according to progress made.

34. To meet the requirements of the new programme, the UNICEF office in Djibouti will adjust its human resources capacities, bearing in mind the new technical challenges posed by the programmes.

TABLE
LINKAGE OF PROGRAMME BUDGET AND STAFFING/STAFF COSTS

COUNTRY : DJIBOUTI
PROGRAMME:2003-2007

PROGRAMME SECTION/AREAS AND FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAMME BUDGET			POSTS a/										STAFF COSTS b/		
	RR	OR	TOTAL	D2/L7	D1/L6	P/L5	P/L4	P/L3	P/L2	IP	NP	GS	TOTAL	IP	LOCAL	TOTAL
REGULAR RESOURCES :																
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	880,000		880,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	270,259	270,259
EDUCATION,FOCUS ON GIRLS	790,000		790,000	0	0	0	0	0.33	0	0.33	0	0	0.33	274,087	0	274,087
FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS	475,000		475,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MONITORING & EVALUATION	305,000		305,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	167,884	167,884
CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS	1,000,000		1,000,000	0	0	0	0	0.67	0	0.67	0	3	3.67	548,174	398,177	946,351
TOTAL RR	3,450,000		3,450,000	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	4	6	822,261	836,320	1,658,581
OTHER RESOURCES :																
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT		1,250,000	1,250,000	0	0	0	0	0.50	0	0.50	0	0	0.50	411,132	0	411,132
EDUCATION,FOCUS ON GIRLS		1,000,000	1,000,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS		800,000	800,000	0	0	0	0	0.50	0	0.50	0	0	0.50	411,132	0	411,132
MONITORING & EVALUATION		375,000	375,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CROSS-SECTORAL COSTS		325,000	325,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OR		3,750,000	3,750,000	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	822,264	0	822,264
TOTAL RR & OR	3,450,000	3,750,000	7,200,000	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	4	7	1,644,525	836,320	2,480,845
SUPPORT BUDGET	Operating costs		514,280													
	Staffing			0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	4	7	1,776,557	989,175	2,765,732
GRAND TOTAL (RR + OR + SB)				0	0	0	1	3	0	4	2	8	14	3,421,082	1,825,495	5,246,577
Number of posts and staff costs:																
Current programme cycle										4	2	7	13			
At the end of proposed programme cycle (indicative only)										4	2	8	14	3,421,082	1,825,495	5,246,577

RR = regular resources.
OR = other resources.
IP = international Professional.
NP = national Professional.
GS = General Service.
SB = support budget.

a/ Each post, regardless of its funding source, supports the country programme as a whole.
b/ Excludes temporary assistance and overtime.